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LOUISIANA

JOB SERVICE

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Dudley J. Patin, Jr., Secretary

BATON ROUGE
P.O. BOX 94094

APRIL, 1986

RELEASE DATE:
MAY 27, 1986

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

(in thousands)	PRELIMINARY APRIL 1986 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED MARCH 1986 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	REVISED APRIL 1985 Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,981.1	1,719.1	262.0	13.2	1,982.9	1,720.8	262.1	13.2	1,982.2	1,754.5	227.7	11.5
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	58.6	52.2	6.4	10.9	58.8	52.2	6.6	11.3	58.3	52.5	5.8	10.0
Baton Rouge 2/	257.3	227.9	29.4	11.4	259.8	229.6	30.2	11.6	257.6	232.5	25.1	9.8
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	77.5	64.8	12.7	16.4	77.5	65.4	12.1	15.6	79.6	70.2	9.4	11.8
Lafayette 4/	112.9	98.6	14.3	12.7	112.0	98.8	13.2	11.8	110.0	100.3	9.7	8.8
Lake Charles 5/	73.7	62.3	11.4	15.5	74.2	62.7	11.5	15.5	77.0	64.5	12.5	16.2
Monroe 6/	68.3	61.2	7.1	10.4	68.8	61.2	7.6	11.0	67.4	61.1	6.3	9.4
New Orleans 7/	593.6	527.7	65.9	11.1	596.3	530.0	66.3	11.1	611.0	542.3	68.7	11.2
Shreveport 8/	165.8	145.2	20.6	12.5	167.9	146.5	21.4	12.7	168.1	154.4	13.7	8.2

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana during April amounted to 1,553,100, a decrease of 16,100 from last month's revised figure and a decrease of 44,500 from April 1985. The decrease for April was due to lower employment in the nonmanufacturing segment. Activities in manufacturing edged up in April.

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Monthly employment in the durable goods segment of nonmanufacturing, at 75,500, was 100 higher than the March revised level but 8,100 below April a year ago. Increased activity at sawmills and planing mills resulted in higher employment for the lumber and wood products industry.

Estimated employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing for April was estimated at 93,100, an increase of 300 over last month's revised figure but 2,200 below the year-ago figure.

Increased production in fats and oils and seafood packaging sectors accounted for the gain in the food and kindred products industry. Less activity in paper mills and paper-board mills accounted for the drop in the paper and allied products employment. The settlement of a labor dispute contributed to the employment increase in the petroleum and coal products segment of manufacturing.

Nonmanufacturing employment for Louisiana dropped to 1,384,500 in April; this was 16,500 below last month's revised level. Mining employment was down as a result of a decrease in exploration for oil and gas. Payrolls were lower throughout the construction industry for April, especially for heavy construction and special trade contractors. Transportation and public utilities suffered a decrease in employment largely due to cutbacks in transportation, except railroads, payrolls. Trade employment for April was down as both the wholesale and retail segments experienced a decrease. Payroll increases in the real estate portion of finance, insurance and real estate exhibited the largest growth for this industry. Less demand for business services accounted for much of the drop in the services industry. Local education payrolls were largely responsible for the upturn in government employment.

Average weekly earnings for Louisiana's 119,600 production workers in manufacturing decreased from $435.25 in March to $429.62 in April, a decrease of $5.63 and a decrease of $4.25 from April 1985. Average hourly earnings, at $10.53, was six cents lower than March but five cents higher than April a year ago. Weekly hours averaged 40.8 during April, a decrease of 0.3 hours from March's figure.

Estimated total unemployment in April amounted to 262,000, a decrease of 100 from the March revised level of 262,100. The unemployment rate for April was unchanged from last month's rate of 13.2 percent compared to 11.5 percent in April 1985. The comparable national unemployment rate for April was 7.0 percent compared to 7.5 percent in March and 7.1 percent for April a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force decreased from 1,982,900 in March, a decrease of 1,800 and 1,100 less than the year ago figure. Total employment moved from 1,720,800 last month to 1,719,100 for the current month, a decrease of 1,700 and 35,400 lower than April 1985.

The unemployment rate for Louisiana will likely remain close to April's level. Mining may continue to decrease while the construction industry could show an increase for the early summer months.

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes LaFourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Ouachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany , St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	April 1986*	March 1986**	April 1985**	Net Change from March 1986	Net Change from April 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,553.1	1,569.2	1,597.6	-16.1	-44.5
MINING	65.9	71.2	81.4	- 5.3	-15.5
Oil and Gas Extraction	62.3	67.6	78.5	- 5.3	-16.2
Nonmetallic Minerals	3.6	3.6	2.9	0	+ 0.7
CONSTRUCTION	93.5	98.3	105.9	- 4.8	-12.4
MANUFACTURING	168.6	168.2	178.9	+ 0.4	-10.3
Durable Goods	75.5	75.4	83.6	+ 0.1	- 8.1
Lumber and Wood Products	12.9	12.7	13.1	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Furniture and Fixtures	0.5	0.5	0.8	0	- 0.3
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	6.8	6.8	7.1	0	- 0.3
Primary Metal Industries	3.3	3.2	3.5	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	12.9	12.9	13.1	0	- 0.2
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.4	9.4	10.3	0	- 0.9
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	7.4	7.5	11.3	- 0.1	- 3.9
Transportation Equipment	20.0	20.0	22.0	0	- 2.0
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.3	2.4	2.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	93.1	92.8	95.3	+ 0.3	- 2.2
Food & Kindred Products	20.5	20.0	19.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.7
Apparel & Other Textile Products	8.4	8.5	8.9	- 0.1	- 0.5
Paper & Allied Products	11.3	11.6	11.3	- 0.3	0
Printing & Publishing	10.1	10.1	10.3	0	- 0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	26.6	26.6	28.6	0	- 2.0
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.1	11.9	12.5	+ 0.2	- 0.4
Petroleum Refining	11.5	11.3	11.8	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.1	4.1	3.9	0	+ 0.2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	108.5	111.8	115.5	- 3.3	- 7.0
Railroad Transportation	5.8	5.8	6.3	0	- 0.5
Transportation, ex. Railroads	61.9	64.9	66.9	- 3.0	- 5.0
Water Transportation	28.4	30.3	30.5	- 1.9	- 2.1
Communication & Electric, Gas & Sanitary Ser.	40.8	41.1	42.3	- 0.3	- 1.5
Communication, Exc. U S Postal Service	19.4	19.5	20.8	- 0.1	- 1.4
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	21.4	21.6	21.5	- 0.2	- 0.1
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	382.6	384.4	383.0	- 1.8	- 0.4
Wholesale Trade	89.4	89.7	93.3	- 0.3	- 3.9
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	50.6	51.2	55.0	- 0.6	- 4.4
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	38.8	38.5	38.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
Retail Trade	293.2	294.7	289.7	- 1.5	+ 3.5
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	59.4	59.4	58.8	0	+ 0.6
Food Stores	58.6	58.2	54.0	+ 0.4	+ 4.6
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	32.1	32.5	32.6	- 0.4	- 0.5
Eating & Drinking Places	89.4	90.1	88.8	- 0.7	+ 0.6
Other Retail Trade	53.7	54.5	55.5	- 0.8	- 1.8

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	April 1986*	March 1986**	April 1985**	Net Change from March 1986	Net Change from April 1985
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	85.7	85.3	84.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.9
Banking	27.6	27.6	27.6	0	0
SERVICES	319.7	321.9	319.6	- 2.2	+ 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	23.1	23.6	24.7	- 0.5	- 1.6
Personal Services	15.8	16.0	15.3	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Business Services	55.6	57.4	57.8	- 1.8	- 2.2
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	10.4	10.5	10.1	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Miscellaneous Repair Services	7.0	7.2	7.4	- 0.2	- 0.4
Amusement & Recreation Services	9.1	8.8	9.1	+ 0.3	0
Health Services	91.7	91.3	90.8	+ 0.4	+ 0.9
Legal Services	13.6	13.5	13.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Educational Services	25.9	26.1	23.1	- 0.2	+ 2.8
Social Services	18.4	18.3	18.5	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Membership Organizations	25.8	25.5	26.0	+ 0.3	- 0.2
Miscellaneous Services	17.3	17.5	17.5	- 0.2	- 0.2
GOVERNMENT	328.6	328.1	328.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.1
Federal	35.8	35.5	35.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.4
State and Local	292.8	292.6	293.1	+ 0.2	- 0.3
State	106.6	107.2	106.1	- 0.6	+ 0.5
Local	186.2	185.4	187.0	+ 0.8	- 0.8

* Preliminary **Revised
(1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

CORRECTION TO NEWSLETTER RELEASED APRIL 25, 1986

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	March '86*	February '86**	March '85**	March '86*	February '86**	March '85**	March '86*	February '86**	March '85**
All MANUFACTURING (1)									
Durable Goods									
Lumber & Wood Products									
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.									
Fabricated Metal Products									
Machinery, ex. Electrical									
Electric & Electronic Equip.									
Transportation Equipment									
Nondurable Goods									
Food & Kindred Products									
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.									
Paper & Allied Products									
Printing & Publishing									
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.									
Petroleum & Coal Products									
Petroleum Refining									
MINING									
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	$518.52	$522.08	$486.68	40.7	41.6	39.6	$12.74	$12.55	$12.29
BANKING	265.12	261.14	247.21	40.6	40.3	37.8	6.53	6.48	6.54

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 121,000 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 102,400 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$429.62	$435.25	$433.87	40.8	41.1	41.4	$10.53	$10.59	$10.48
Durable Goods	377.45	379.37	392.37	39.9	39.6	41.0	9.46	9.58	9.57
Lumber & Wood Products	311.65	308.11	294.84	39.3	39.1	40.5	7.93	7.88	7.28
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	365.03	387.93	351.90	41.2	40.2	39.1	8.86	9.65	9.00
Fabricated Metal Products	361.75	365.94	420.11	38.2	38.0	43.0	9.47	9.63	9.77
Machinery, ex. Electrical	395.93	376.75	406.78	41.2	39.7	40.8	9.61	9.49	9.97
Electric & Electronic Equip.	463.98	469.77	441.46	40.7	41.1	40.8	11.40	11.43	10.82
Transportation Equipment	425.06	432.55	429.72	40.1	40.2	39.9	10.60	10.76	10.77
Nondurable Goods	476.74	486.63	477.66	41.6	42.5	41.9	11.46	11.45	11.40
Food & Kindred Products	303.69	306.89	297.14	38.2	38.7	37.9	7.95	7.93	7.84
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	210.72	216.22	208.48	37.9	39.1	37.7	5.56	5.53	5.53
Paper & Allied Products	583.88	598.53	565.15	44.0	44.7	44.5	13.27	13.39	12.70
Printing & Publishing	385.77	403.61	358.44	38.5	40.2	38.5	10.02	10.04	9.31
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	632.81	648.59	644.79	42.7	43.5	42.9	14.82	14.91	15.03
Petroleum & Coal Products	683.09	695.53	741.74	46.5	48.1	50.7	14.69	14.46	14.63
Petroleum Refining	700.15	713.40	771.42	47.5	49.2	51.6	14.74	14.50	14.95
MINING	528.77	529.46	524.40	46.1	46.0	47.5	11.47	11.51	11.04
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	510.88	518.11	493.20	41.3	40.7	40.0	12.37	12.73	12.33
BANKING	265.10	265.12	247.87	38.7	40.6	37.9	6.85	6.53	6.54

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 119,600 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 92,900 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	PRELIMINARY 04 86				REVISED 03 86			
	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	25,000	20,625	4,375	17.5	24,450	20,500	3,950	16.2
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	9,425	7,800	1,625	17.2	9,325	7,650	1,675	18.0
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	8,500	6,625	1,875	22.0	8,550	6,550	2,000	23.5
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	17,500	13,925	3,575	20.4	17,350	13,775	3,575	20.6
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	13,400	11,600	1,800	13.5	13,425	11,550	1,875	13.9
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	6,625	5,700	925	14.0	6,750	5,800	950	14.2
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,875	4,125	750	15.4	4,750	4,075	675	14.3
CAMERON (CAMERON)	5,200	4,600	600	11.7	4,975	4,425	550	11.3
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	5,150	3,900	1,250	24.4	5,175	3,825	1,350	26.1
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	7,925	7,025	900	11.2	7,750	6,900	850	11.1
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	10,800	8,550	2,250	20.7	10,575	8,350	2,225	21.1
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	14,725	12,525	2,200	14.9	14,650	12,400	2,250	15.4
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	5,000	3,800	1,200	24.0	4,850	3,675	1,175	24.3
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	8,475	7,325	1,150	13.6	8,300	7,100	1,200	14.5
VILLE PLATTE(EVANGELINE)	14,800	12,025	2,775	18.8	14,775	12,100	2,675	18.1
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	9,100	7,300	1,800	19.9	8,925	7,100	1,825	20.5
COLFAX (GRANT)	7,250	6,200	1,050	14.4	7,200	6,125	1,075	15.0
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	30,925	25,175	5,750	18.6	30,300	25,000	5,300	17.5
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	12,525	10,225	2,300	18.3	12,475	10,200	2,275	18.2
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	7,075	6,325	750	10.5	7,050	6,275	775	11.0
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	13,625	11,300	2,325	17.1	13,200	11,025	2,175	16.5
JENA (LASALLE)	7,525	6,600	925	12.2	7,450	6,575	875	11.8
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	18,775	17,650	1,125	5.9	18,575	17,450	1,125	6.0
TALLULAH (MADISON)	6,575	5,475	1,100	16.7	6,725	5,400	1,325	19.6
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	13,475	11,075	2,400	17.8	13,675	11,025	2,650	19.3
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	17,525	15,425	2,100	12.0	17,400	15,225	2,175	12.5
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUM.)	10,700	9,425	1,275	11.9	10,650	9,425	1,225	11.6
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	8,575	6,800	1,775	20.7	8,475	6,675	1,800	21.4
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,500	3,900	600	13.1	4,525	3,900	625	13.7
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	8,925	7,375	1,550	17.3	8,825	7,225	1,600	18.1
MANY (SABINE)	10,325	8,850	1,475	14.3	10,225	8,750	1,475	14.5
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	3,475	2,975	500	14.1	3,475	3,000	475	13.7
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	8,825	7,250	1,575	17.9	8,825	7,250	1,575	17.8
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	37,175	29,600	7,575	20.4	36,375	29,175	7,200	19.8
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	32,525	25,600	6,925	21.3	32,100	25,750	6,350	19.8
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	39,100	33,250	5,850	15.0	39,025	33,025	6,000	15.4
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,450	3,025	425	12.2	3,400	2,925	475	13.7
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,700	7,475	1,225	14.2	8,525	7,250	1,275	15.0
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	23,050	18,500	4,550	19.7	22,900	18,525	4,375	19.1
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	18,225	16,575	1,650	9.1	17,975	16,250	1,725	9.6
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	18,225	15,575	2,650	14.6	17,950	15,300	2,650	14.7
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	20,250	17,350	2,900	14.3	20,200	17,275	2,925	14.5
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	5,525	3,950	1,575	28.6	5,425	3,800	1,625	30.1
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,375	3,775	600	13.4	4,400	3,800	600	13.7
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,700	5,050	650	11.6	5,700	5,025	675	11.9

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	April 1986*	March 1986**	April 1985**	Net Change From March 1986	Net Change From April 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.2	45.2	44.9	0	+ 0.3
MANUFACTURING	3.4	3.4	3.5	0	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.6	2.6	2.7	0	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11.0	11.0	11.0	0	0
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	8.8	8.8	8.7	0	+ 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Auto Dlrs. & Svc. Sta.	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Other Retail Trade	3.5	3.5	3.4	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
SERVICES	10.2	10.2	9.7	0	+ 0.5
Health Services	4.2	4.2	4.0	0	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	13.0	13.0	13.0	0	0
Federal	2.6	2.6	2.6	0	0
State and Local	10.4	10.4	10.4	0	0
State	5.4	5.4	5.4	0	0
Local	5.0	5.0	5.0	0	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria area was estimated at 45,200 during April. This estimate was unchanged since March and 300 more than April of last year.

Estimated employment in manufacturing during April totaled 3,400. This estimate remained unchanged since the previous month and 100 less than April of last year. The decrease since last April was in other durable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing was estimated at 41,800 during April. This was the same as last month and 300 more than April of last year. Changes since last year reflect slight declines in construction and wholesale trade, with increases in retail trade and services.

Total employment should increase slightly during the next thirty days, with the number of unemployed remaining about the same.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA at 212,900 during April was down 700 from March's revised estimate. Manufacturing was down 100 and nonmanufacturing was down 600.

Employment in manufacturing at 20,000 was down 100 during the current period. Durable goods had no change. Nondurable goods were down due to less business in miscellaneous plastic products and in miscellaneous apparel accessories.

Nonmanufacturing employment was down 600 during April. Mining had no change. Construction was down due to less business in the major group of special trade contractors. Transportation and public utilities were down due to seasonal decreases in services incidental to water transportation. Wholesale trade was down due to less business in lumber and other construction materials, in machinery, equipment, and supplies, in electrical goods, and in chemicals and allied products. Retail trade was down due to less business in department stores, grocery stores, and in motor vehicle dealers (new and used). Finance, insurance, and real estate were down due to less business in personal credit institutions. Services had no change. Government was up due to increased hiring in local government offices and hospitals.

Average weekly earnings of Baton Rouge LMA's 12,300 production workers in all manufacturing was $500.64, down $12.93 from March's revised average. Average weekly hours were down 0.2 hours and average hourly earnings were down $0.25 per hour.

Total employment of Baton Rouge LMA's residents was estimated at 227,900 during April, down 1,700 from March's revised estimate and down 4,600 form April of last year. Unemployment at 29,400 was down 800 during the current period. April's unemployment rate was 11.4 percent, down from March's revised 11.6 percent. The statewide unemployment rate was 13.2 percent during April. The Baton Rouge LMA civilian labor force totaled 257,300 during the current period.

Students entering the labor force seeking summer jobs are expected to start increasing unemployment and the unemployment rate during the coming month.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 2,169 individuals with new or renewal applications, and placed 464 applicants in jobs during April.

The consumer price index for March, 1986 for all urban consumers was 326.0, and for all urban wage and clerical workers 321.4 using base period 1967=100.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	April 1986*	March 1986**	April 1985**	Net Change From March 1986	Net Change From April 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	212.9	213.6	217.0	- 0.7	- 4.1
MANUFACTURING	20.0	20.1	21.1	- 0.1	- 1.1
Durable Goods	4.2	4.2	4.4	0	- 0.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.9	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	15.8	15.9	16.7	- 0.1	- 0.9
Food & Kindred Products	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	11.5	11.5	12.3	0	- 0.8
Other Nondurable Goods	0.8	0.9	0.8	- 0.1	0
MINING	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	20.8	20.9	21.8	- 0.1	- 1.0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILTIES	10.3	10.4	10.5	- 0.1	- 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	50.4	50.9	52.4	- 0.5	- 2.0
Wholesale Trade	10.6	10.9	11.4	- 0.3	- 0.8
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	7.5	7.7	8.0	- 0.2	- 0.5
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.1	3.2	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.3
Retail Trade	39.8	40.0	41.0	- 0.2	- 1.2
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	14.0	14.1	13.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Banking	4.4	4.4	4.4	0	0
SERVICES	41.7	41.7	41.1	0	+ 0.6
GOVERNMENT	54.4	54.2	55.2	+ 0.2	- 0.8
Federal	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
State and Local	52.2	52.0	53.0	+ 0.2	- 0.8
State	31.5	31.5	31.3	0	+ 0.2
Local	20.7	20.5	21.7	+ 0.2	- 1.0

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	$500.64	$513.57	$556.34	42.0	42.2	43.6	$11.92	$12.17	$12.76
Petro-Chemicals	649.60	666.26	706.40	46.7	46.3	46.2	13.91	14.39	15.29

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,300 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	April 1986*	March 1986**	April 1985**	Net Change From March 1986	Net Change From April 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	57.6	58.2	62.4	- 0.6	- 4.8
MANUFACTURING	4.1	4.2	5.2	- 0.1	- 1.1
Durable Goods	2.9	2.9	3.6	0	- 0.7
Nondurable Goods	1.2	1.3	1.6	- 0.1	- 0.4
MINING	7.2	7.4	8.6	- 0.2	- 1.4
CONSTRUCTION	2.5	2.3	2.8	+ 0.2	- 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.6	6.9	7.5	- 0.3	- 0.9
Water Transportation	4.4	4.5	4.8	- 0.1	- 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.3	14.4	15.4	- 0.1	- 1.1
Wholesale Trade	3.3	3.4	3.5	- 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	11.0	11.0	11.9	0	- 0.9
Eating & Drinking Places	3.1	3.2	3.7	- 0.1	- 0.6
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	8.9	9.0	9.0	- 0.1	- 0.1
GOVERNMENT	11.3	11.3	11.3	0	0
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
State and Local	10.8	10.8	10.8	0	0
State	3.2	3.1	3.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Local	7.6	7.7	7.7	- 0.1	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux LMA in April decreased to 57,600, down 600 from March. Every industry division but construction and government moved down. Since April of 1985, total nonagricultural employment has exhibited a drop of 7.7 percent, or 4,800 workers. Over the year, every industry division except finance, insurance and real estate showed a decrease. Especially harmful were layoffs in mining, transportation, manufacturing and real estate.

Manufacturing employment totaled 4,100 in April, down 100 from last month. Nondurable goods decreased due to seasonal declines in the food and kindred segment. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing employment is down 1,100.

Mining sustained the downtrend of the past year. Transportation and public utilities decreased, adversely affected by the problems of mining. Wholesale trade tapered off slightly. Services eased down in employment by business services and private health services. In government, a small upturn in the state sector was offset by a slight downturn in the local sector. More favorably, construction pushed up seasonally. Finance, insurance and real estate held steady.

Estimated unemployment in April moved up to 12,700, a level 600 above March. The decrease in employment was mainly responsible. Joblessness presently comprises 16.4 percent of the labor force compared to 15.6 percent in March and 11.8 percent in April of last year. The April rate was somewhat higher than the state rate of 13.2 percent and much higher than the comparable national rate of 7.0 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits numbered 3,912.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to sustain the overall downtrend of the past few months. Much will depend on developments in the oil and gas industry. Unemployment will reflect the summer increase in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	April 1986*	March 1986**	April 1985**	Net Change From March 1986	Net Change From April 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	96.3	96.9	99.5	- 0.6	- 3.2
MANUFACTURING	5.8	6.0	6.3	- 0.2	- 0.5
Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.2	0	- 0.2
Nondurable Goods	3.8	4.0	4.1	- 0.2	- 0.3
Food & Kindred Products	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
MINING	15.8	16.3	17.4	- 0.5	- 1.6
CONSTRUCTION	5.1	5.1	5.2	0	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	7.3	7.2	7.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	25.2	25.1	25.9	+ 0.1	- 0.7
Wholesale Trade	6.2	6.3	6.6	- 0.1	- 0.4
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	4.0	4.1	4.3	- 0.1	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Retail Trade	19.0	18.8	19.3	+ 0.2	- 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Ace.	3.6	3.6	3.3	0	+ 0.3
Food Stores	2.7	2.8	3.2	- 0.1	- 0.5
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.9	1.9	- 0.1	- 0.1
Other Retail Trade	10.9	10.5	10.9	+ 0.4	0
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.8	3.8	4.1	0	- 0.3
Banking	1.6	1.6	1.6	0	0
SERVICES	19.2	19.3	19.9	- 0.1	- 0.7
GOVERNMENT	14.1	14.1	13.6	0	+ 0.5
Federal	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
State and Local	13.1	13.1	12.7	0	+ 0.4
State	5.5	5.5	5.2	0	+ 0.3
Local	7.6	7.6	7.5	0	+ 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Lafayette during April stood at 96,300, a decrease of 600 from the previous month and 3,200 less than the same period a year ago. The majority of this decrease was in the nonmanufacturing segment with mining taking the largest decrease.

Manufacturing showed a 200 decrease from the previous month and 500 less from April of 1985.

The trades showed a decrease of 100 from March of 1986 and 700 less than April of 1985.

Services was 100 lower than the previous month and 700 less than the same period of time a year ago.

The continued decrease in employment is still due to the slump in the oil industry. The unemployment rate should remain stable next month.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	April 1986*	March 1986**	April 1985**	Net Change From March 1986	Net Change From April 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	57.3	57.5	58.8	- 0.2	- 1.5
MANUFACTURING	8.8	8.8	9.1	0	- 0.3
Durable Goods	0.8	0.7	0.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	0.5	0.4	0.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.0	8.1	8.4	- 0.1	- 0.4
Food & Kindred Products	0.4	0.3	0.4	+ 0.1	0
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.1	7.3	7.5	- 0.2	- 0.4
Other Nondurable Goods	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
MINING	1.8	1.9	2.3	- 0.1	- 0.5
CONSTRUCTION	3.6	3.5	3.8	+ 0.1	- 0.2
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	4.1	4.2	4.1	- 0.1	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.5	14.7	14.8	- 0.2	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade	2.9	3.0	3.1	- 0.1	- 0.2
Retail Trade	11.6	11.7	11.7	- 0.1	- 0.1
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.3	2.3	0	0
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.4	1.4	1.3	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.7	2.6	2.7	+ 0.1	0
Banking	1.1	1.0	1.1	+ 0.1	0
SERVICES	10.7	10.7	11.0	0	- 0.3
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.7	0	- 0.1
Personal Services	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
GOVERNMENT	11.1	11.1	11.0	0	+ 0.1
Federal	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
State and Local	10.4	10.4	10.3	0	+ 0.1
State	3.8	3.8	3.9	0	- 0.1
Local	6.6	6.6	6.4	0	+ 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lake Charles area was estimated at 57,300, a decrease of 200 from the previous month and 1,500 below April a year ago. The decrease was centered around the nonmanufacturing segment of the economy.

Mining decreased 100 from the previous month and fell 500 from the same period of time a year ago.

The trade area was also noted for a substantial decrease. Wholesale trade decreased 100 from March of 1986 and 200 below April of 1985.

The other segments remained relatively stable and showed little fluctuation.

The unemployment rate continues to be high because of the lack of drilling activities. Most oil analysts see little relief in sight.

Next month's rate should remain close to the present level.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	April 1986*	March 1986**	April 1985**	Net Change From March 1986	Net Change From April 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	55.9	55.8	56.1	+ 0.1	- 0.2
MANUFACTURING	7.7	7.6	7.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	2.4	2.4	2.3	0	+ 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	5.3	5.2	5.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.7	3.6	3.5	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
MINING	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	4.0	4.1	3.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.6	2.6	2.9	0	- 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	15.7	15.6	15.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.6
Wholesale Trade	4.1	4.2	4.1	- 0.1	0
Retail Trade	11.6	11.4	11.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	3.5	3.6	2.9	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.9	2.7	3.2	+ 0.2	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.5	4.5	4.3	0	+ 0.2
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
SERVICES	11.1	11.2	11.0	- 0.1	+ 0.1
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.7	0.7	0.6	0	+ 0.1
Personal Services	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	0
Health Services	4.5	4.5	4.4	0	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	9.8	9.7	11.1	+ 0.1	- 1.3
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	9.2	9.1	10.5	+ 0.1	- 1.3
State	4.7	4.7	4.9	0	- 0.2
Local	4.5	4.4	5.6	+ 0.1	- 1.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment, estimated at 55,900 during mid-April, was up 100 from the March estimate of 55,800.

Manufacturing had a minimal gain of 100 as it rose to 7,700. The gain was in nondurable goods.

Nonmanufacturing remained at 48,200; however, there was some activity. The largest gain, 200, was in retail trade. All other economic areas were either unchanged or experienced minimal changes of 100.

Over the next 30 days employment should rise slightly as unemployment remains high.

EMPLOYERS: Students are now available for summer employment. If you can use a youth for the summer or part-time in your organization, call your local Job Service Office at (318) 362-5111.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	April 1986*	March 1986**	April 1985**	Net Change From March 1986	Net Change From April 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	521.0	522.6	534.8	- 1.6	-13.8
MANUFACTURING	43.1	43.0	45.3	+ 0.1	- 2.2
Durable Goods	21.2	21.3	23.2	- 0.1	- 2.0
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.8	1.8	2.0	0	- 0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	2.5	2.5	2.9	0	- 0.4
Machinery	2.8	2.8	3.0	0	- 0.2
Transportation Equipment	11.9	12.0	13.1	- 0.1	- 1.2
Ship and Boatbuilding & Repairing	7.4	7.4	8.5	0	- 1.1
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.7	0	0
Nondurable Goods	21.9	21.7	22.1	+ 0.2	- 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	6.4	6.4	6.3	0	+ 0.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Printing & Publishing	3.7	3.7	3.6	0	+ 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.2	4.2	4.5	0	- 0.3
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.6	4.4	4.6	+ 0.2	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
MINING	18.5	18.8	19.7	- 0.3	- 1.2
Oil & Gas Extraction	17.9	18.2	19.2	- 0.3	- 1.3
CONSTRUCTION	25.1	25.3	27.6	- 0.2	- 2.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	44.4	44.7	46.2	- 0.3	- 1.8
Railroad Transportation	1.9	1.9	2.1	0	- 0.2
Water Transportation	13.9	14.0	14.5	- 0.1	- 0.6
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	139.4	140.5	138.4	- 1.1	+ 1.0
Wholesale Trade	34.1	34.1	35.7	0	- 1.6
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	20.1	20.2	21.7	- 0.1	- 1.6
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	14.0	13.9	14.0	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	105.3	106.4	102.7	- 1.1	+ 2.6
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	32.9	32.4	33.3	+ 0.5	- 0.4
Banking	7.6	7.5	7.6	+ 0.1	0
SERVICES	131.8	132.2	134.0	- 0.4	- 2.2
GOVERNMENT	85.8	85.7	90.3	+ 0.1	- 4.5
Federal	15.8	15.9	15.4	- 0.1	+ 0.4
State and Local	70.0	69.8	74.9	+ 0.2	- 4.9
State	22.1	22.0	22.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Local	47.9	47.8	52.7	+ 0.1	- 4.8

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**
All MANUFACTURING	$419.44	$423.87	$426.78	39.2	39.8	40.3	$10.70	$10.65	$10.59
Durable Goods	372.02	374.74	404.81	38.0	37.7	40.4	9.79	9.94	10.02
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	396.74	372.48	387.50	36.9	37.1	39.3	10.02	10.04	9.86
Fabricated Metal Products	275.40	270.72	470.38	30.0	28.2	47.9	9.18	9.60	9.82
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	394.81	394.42	383.66	39.6	39.6	37.7	9.97	9.96	10.15
Nondurable Goods	466.22	471.92	452.57	40.4	41.8	40.3	11.54	11.29	11.23
Food & Kindred Products	323.09	340.00	291.14	38.1	40.0	36.9	8.48	8.50	7.89
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	122.61	159.23	134.47	21.7	27.5	23.8	5.65	5.79	5.65
Paper & Allied Products	459.27	461.62	451.23	48.6	48.9	47.2	9.45	9.44	9.56
Printing & Publishing	391.67	412.34	362.97	41.8	44.1	41.2	9.37	9.35	8.81
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	646.85	647.36	694.82	42.5	42.9	44.2	15.22	15.09	15.72

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 28,500 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the New Orleans LMA in April moved down to 521,000, a level 1,600 below March. The decrease was spread through most industry divisions. Since April 1985, total nonagricultural unemployment lost 13,800 workers, with every industry division but trade exhibiting a decrease.

Manufacturing employment totaled 43,000 in April, up 100 from the previous month. Petroleum refining increased due to the settlement of a labor dispute, and transportation equipment manufacturing decreased because of a layoff at a local firm. Compared to one year ago, manufacturing has lost 2,200 employees.

Retail trade showed a decrease over the month in every industry except automotive dealers and service stations. The largest decrease was in employment by food stores. In wholesale trade, a small upturn in nondurable goods was offset by a slight downturn in durable goods. Services were lowered by layoffs by the hotel-motel industry, business services and miscellaneous services. Transportation, communication, and public utilities all lost workers. Mining sustained the downtrend of the past year. Construction remained adversely affected by the overall problems of the area economy. More favorably, finance pushed up in miscellaneous credit agencies, real estate rose seasonally, and government edged up in both the state and local sectors.

Area production workers earned an average $419.44 per week in April, down $4.43 from last month's average. The decrease of 36 minutes in average hours was offset by an increase of five cents in average hourly earnings. Compared to one year ago, weekly earnings went down $7.34.

Estimated unemployment in April tapered off to 65,900, showing a minor decrease of 400 since March. A reduction in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force accounted for most of the change. Joblessness presently comprises 11.1 percent of the labor force compared to 11.1 percent in March and 11.2 percent in April of last year. The April rate was lower than the state rate of 13.2 percent, but much higher than the comparable national rate of 7.0 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 16,894, about 43.0 percent of the claimants were nonwhite; approximately 32.0 percent were female.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to sustain the downtrend exhibited in the past few months. Much will depend on developments in the oil and gas industry, the port, tourism and manufacturing. Unemployment will reflect the summer increase in the number of entrants and reentrants into the labor force.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	April 1986*	March 1986**	April 1985**	Net Change From March 1986	Net Change From April 1985
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	134.8	135.8	144.0	- 1.0	- 9.2
MANUFACTURING	19.0	18.9	23.3	+ 0.1	- 4.3
Durable Goods	14.1	14.0	18.5	+ 0.1	- 4.4
Lumber and Wood Products	0.8	0.7	0.7	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Metals and Machinery	8.2	8.3	12.6	- 0.1	- 4.4
Primary and Fabricated Metals	2.1	2.1	2.3	0	- 0.2
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	6.1	6.2	10.3	- 0.1	- 4.2
Other Durable Goods	5.1	5.0	5.2	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Good	4.9	4.9	4.8	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.9	0.9	1.0	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.3	1.3	1.4	0	- 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.5	0	+ 0.3
MINING	3.7	4.2	4.8	- 0.5	- 1.1
CONSTRUCTION	7.7	7.9	8.6	- 0.2	- 0.9
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	7.9	8.2	8.9	- 0.3	- 1.0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	31.8	32.2	33.8	- 0.4	- 2.0
Wholesale Trade	8.4	8.5	8.9	- 0.1	- 0.5
Retail Trade	23.4	23.7	24.9	- 0.3	- 1.5
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	7.9	8.0	7.8	- 0.1	+ 0.1
SERVICES	29.9	29.5	30.7	+ 0.4	- 0.8
GOVERNMENT	26.9	26.9	26.1	0	+ 0.8
Federal	4.5	4.4	4.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
State and Local	22.4	22.5	21.7	- 0.1	+ 0.7
State	8.0	8.0	7.0	0	+ 1.0
Local	14.4	14.5	14.7	- 0.1	- 0.3

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**	April '86*	March '86**	April '85**
All MANUFACTURING	$400.81	$409.34	$428.90	38.1	38.4	40.5	$10.52	$10.66	$10.59
Lumber and Wood Products	277.98	265.21	221.56	41.0	41.7	38.6	6.78	6.36	5.74
Metals and Machinery	412.33	410.41	421.28	39.8	39.5	41.1	10.36	10.39	10.25
Food and Kindred Products	308.51	299.95	308.26	40.7	40.1	41.6	7.58	7.48	7.41
Printing and Publishing	281.18	290.78	274.12	31.7	31.2	31.8	8.87	9.32	8.62
Petroleum and Coal Products	582.06	625.00	561.50	44.5	48.6	45.1	13.08	12.86	12.45

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 13,600 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The Shreveport labor area has experienced a decline of 1,000 in total nonagricultural wage and salary employment during the past month. This decline occurred in nonmanufacturing employment.

The current manufacturing employment total of 19,000 is 100 more than last month, but 4,300 less than one year ago. Employment gains in lumber and wood products and other durable goods were partially off-set by employment losses in machinery manufacturing.

There was an employment loss of 1,100 in total nonmanufacturing during the last month. This employment decline occurred in all segments of nonmanufacturing except services and government. Employment in mining dropped from 4,200 to 3,700, and construction employment fell from 7,900 to 7,700 due to less business for special trade contractors. Transportation and public utilities declined to 7,900, down from 8,200 in March, while finance, insurance and real estate shows a slight drop from 8,000 to 7,900. The services employment estimate of 29,900 is 400 above last month and most of the increase resulted from amusement and recreation services gains.

The Shreveport labor area has an estimated 13,600 production workers in manufacturing with average weekly earnings of $400.81, $8.53 below the revised March estimate and $28.09 less than the year ago estimate. The average weekly hours dropped to 38.1, down from 38.4 last month and 40.5 in April, 1985. The average hourly earnings declined to $10.52, down from $10.66 last month and $10.59 in April, 1985.

The civilian labor force in the Shreveport area is estimated at 165,800, including 145,200 employed and 20,600 unemployed. The unemployment rate is 12.5 percent, down from the revised March rate of 12.7 percent.

This area continues to face problems with the sluggish economy. Total unemployment remains high and is expected to show a seasonal increase in June with the addition of new and re-entrants into the job market. Seasonal employment gains in the services sector will be reflected in the May estimates.

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF FEBRUARY 1986

Industry	LOUISIANA			ALEXANDRIA AREA			BATON ROUGE AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	5,822	4,941	881	121	114	7	62	49	13
Contractural Construction (15-17)	24,470	16,760	7,710	640	464	176	4,912	3,681	1,231
Manufacturing (20-29)	13,689	7,242	6,447	212	88	124	806	520	286
Trans., Comm., & Utilties (40-49)	4,314	2,659	1,655	71	55	16	372	198	174
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	2,178	1,525	653	48	41	7	218	150	68
Retail Trade (52-59)	10,060	6,108	3,952	288	171	117	1,076	603	473
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	1,592	1,185	407	34	29	5	197	151	46
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	15,006	7,796	7,210	359	195	164	1,223	653	570
Public Administration (91-97)	1,869	865	1,004	50	27	23	349	92	257
All Others	291	238	53	5	3	2	67	57	10
Totals	79,291	49,319	29,972	1,828	1,187	641	9,282	6,154	3,128
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	7,774	6,294	1,480	149	128	21	956	767	189
Clerical and Sales	12,792	9,247	3,545	316	235	81	1,486	997	489
Services Occupations	6,700	2,212	4,488	222	72	150	617	167	450
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	2,420	851	1,569	50	24	26	82	25	57
Processing Occupations	2,394	1,197	1,197	21	6	15	214	154	60
Machine Trades	3,991	2,842	1,149	109	78	31	494	409	85
Benchwork Occupations	4,523	2,366	2,157	92	33	59	100	61	39
Structural Work Occupations	24,763	16,593	8,170	582	527	109	4,371	3,153	1,218
Miscellaneous Occupations	13,934	7,717	6,217	287	84	149	962	421	541
Totals	79,291	49,319	29,972	1,828	1,187	641	9,282	6,154	3,128

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF FEBRUARY 1986

Industry	HOUMA-THIBODAUX AREA			LAFAYETTE			LAKE CHARLES AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	561	477	84	864	713	151	178	160	18
Contractural Construction (15-17)	790	613	177	774	485	289	1,146	937	209
Manufacturing (20-29)	1,102	734	368	351	171	180	366	246	120
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	305	256	49	191	141	50	253	144	109
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	134	101	33	153	125	28	70	48	22
Retail Trade (52-59)	360	267	93	611	420	191	572	407	165
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	33	28	5	98	83	15	49	36	13
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	584	456	128	692	470	222	523	341	182
Public Administration (91-97)	45	31	14	42	30	12	82	42	40
All Others	9	6	3	12	10	2	1	1	0
Totals	3,923	2,969	954	3,788	2,648	1,140	3,240	2,362	878
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	395	355	40	513	466	47	325	273	52
Clerical and Sales	411	353	58	929	789	140	652	518	134
Services Occupations	223	134	89	343	146	197	253	111	142
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	210	172	38	48	22	26	70	18	52
Processing Occupations	414	262	152	145	39	106	97	59	38
Machine Trades	184	143	41	200	162	38	115	104	11
Benchwork Occupations	39	25	14	69	43	26	47	42	5
Structural Work Occupations	1,284	984	300	783	521	262	1,076	879	197
Miscellaneous Occupations	763	541	222	758	460	298	605	358	247
Totals	3,923	2,969	954	3,788	2,648	1,140	3,240	2,362	878

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF FEBRUARY 1986

Industry	MONROE AREA			NEW ORLEANS AREA			SHREVEPORT AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	73	68	5	387	291	96	348	324	24
Contractural Construction (15-17)	850	685	165	4,870	3,010	1,860	1,358	758	600
Manufacturing (20-29)	188	119	69	2,701	1,290	1,411	2,588	1,412	1,176
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	86	59	27	1,646	817	829	210	133	77
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	29	23	6	633	385	248	268	180	88
Retail Trade (52-59)	488	296	192	2,765	1,408	1,357	853	478	375
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	43	26	17	684	463	221	178	138	40
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 cnd 01-09)	411	242	169	4,371	2,066	2,305	1,235	638	597
Public Administration (91-97)	89	49	40	409	149	260	118	63	55
All Others	11	3	8	83	28	55	5	2	3
Totals	2,268	1,570	698	18,549	9,907	8,642	7,161	4,126	3,035
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	266	228	38	2,849	2,110	739	607	527	80
Clerical and Sales	441	319	122	3,979	2,420	1,559	1,084	838	246
Services Occupations	225	68	157	2,084	507	1,577	745	166	579
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	21	4	17	159	76	83	83	33	50
Processing Occupations	27	15	12	471	217	254	70	24	46
Machine Trades	150	107	43	965	645	320	346	193	153
Benchwork Occupations	50	28	22	694	175	519	1,922	1,089	833
Structural Work Occupations	675	548	127	4,771	2,799	1,972	1,324	781	543
Miscellaneous Occupations	413	253	160	2,577	958	1,619	980	475	505
Totals	2,268	1,570	698	18,549	9,907	8,642	7,161	4,126	3,035